

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Department of Homeland Security has awarded two grants totaling more than \$1 million to fire departments in Monterey and Gonzales. The funds are part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program.

Local fire departments that will receive funds:

- Monterey Fire Department will receive \$933,920 for operations and safety efforts
- Gonzales Fire Department will receive \$103,200 for recruitment

"Our firefighters work hard to keep us safe, and their work is even more important as our local communities face difficulties funding government operations," said Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel). "I will continue to support these very important grant programs to make sure our firefighters have the funds they need."

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant program has provided \$2.8 billion to first-responder organizations around the country since the grant program began in 2004. The two Central Coast fire departments are receiving operations and safety grants that can be used for training, equipment, fitness and health modifications to stations and facilities.

###